

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

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INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

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TAGS: PFOR PINT UR

SUBJ: BREZHNEV IN KAZAKHSTAN

1. SUMMARY. IN APPARENT FURTHER ATTEMPT TO BOLSTER
HIS DOMESTIC PRESTIGE, GENERAL SECRETARY BREZHNEV FOR
SECOND TIME WITHIN MONTH HAS TRAVELLED TO SOVIET HINTER-
LANDS, THIS TIME TO AWARD ORDER OF FRIENDSHIP OF
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PEOPLES TO KAZAKH REPUBLIC AND TO MAKE MAJOR ADDRESS

COVERED BY NATIONWIDE TELEVISION. DOMESTIC PORTION OF SPEECH FOCUSED PRIMARILY ON LOCAL ECONOMIC ISSUES AND BROKE VIRTUALLY NO NEW GROUND. FOREIGN POLICY COMMENTS EMPHASIZED ASIA, EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE ABOUT INCREASED CONTACTS WITH WEST, AND FAILED TO MENTION SPECIFICS OF BREZHNEV'S RECENT FOREIGN POLICY ACHIEVEMENTS. END SUMMARY.

2. FOLLOWING ON HEELS OF HIS TRIP TO KIEV TO PRESENT SIMILAR HONOR TO UKRAINIAN REPUBLIC, BREZHNEV HAS NOW TRAVELLED TO KAZAKH REPUBLIC TO PRESENT ORDER OF FRIENDSHIP OF PEOPLES, WHICH AWARDED TO ALL REGIONAL AREAS OF USSR ON OCCASION OF 50 TH ANNIVERSARY OF FOUNDING OF SOVIET UNION. ACCOMPANYING BREZHNEV ON TRIP ARE DEPUTY PREMIER MURIYEV, MINISTER OF PROCUREMENT ZOLOTUKHIN AND PERSONAL ASSISTANTS TSUKANOV, BOLIVOV AND BLATOV. COMPOSITION OF ENTOURAGE, ALL OF WHOM HAVE DOMESTIC RESPONSIBILITIES WITH EXCEPTION OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS ADVISOR BLATOV, INDICATES THAT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLAN FULFILLMENT ARE PRINCIPAL CONCERNS OF VISIT.

3. WITH BOTH UKRAINIAN AND KAZAKH PARTY FIRST SECRETARIES CONSIDERED AS BEING AMONG HIS CLOSEST PROTEGES, BREZHNEV COULD BE CERTAIN OF RECEIVING WARM WELCOME ON HIS FORAYS INTO BOTH THESE REPUBLICS. ADDITIONALLY, AS FORMER KAZAKH SRST SECRETARY, BREZHNEV INEVITABLY HAS BEVY OF OLD ACQUAINTANCES IN REGION. IT IS NOT CERTAINLY NO COINCIDENCE THAT DURING VISITS BREZHNEV HAS BEEN ABLE TO ANNOUNCE THAT AGRICULTURAL WORKERS IN BOTH REGIONS HAVE COMMITTED THEMSELVES TO SELL RECORD AMOUNTS OF GRAIN TO GOVERNMENT THIS YEAR. ACCORDINGLY, TRIPS SHOULD GO LONG WAY TO ENHANCE BREZHNEV'S PERSONAL PRESTIGE BY DEMONSTRATING THAT HE IS POPULAR FIGURE AND THAT HE IS PERSONALLY CONCERNED ABOUT DOMESTIC DEVELOPMENTS.

4. DOMESTIC PORTION OF SPEECH IN ALMA ATA, CARRIED TO REST OF NATION VIA TELEVISIONS HOOK-UP, COVERED LITTLE NEW GROUND AND CONSISTED PRIMARILY OF EXHORTATIONS TO LOCAL RESIDENTS TO STEP UP EFFORTS TO IMPROVE OVERALL ECONOMIC LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MIC PERFORMANCE OF THE REPUBLIC. BREZHNEV ALSO REPORTED THAT GOOD GRAIN HARVESTS HAVE BEEN REAPED IN MANY AREAS OF THE COUNTRY AND INDICATED THAT SAME WOULD BE TRUE IN KAZAKHSTAN.

5. FOREIGN POLICY: BREZHNEV STRONGLY DEFENDED DETENTE, DRAWING ON CRIMEAN PARTY LEADER MEETING SUPPORT FOR CPSU PEACE PROGRAM. HE ASSERTED NEED TO GIVE IT LASTING

CHARACTER AND TO EXTEND IT TO BROAD AREAS OF WORLD , OF WHICH HE SINGLED OUT ASIA FOR MAJOR POLICY STATEMENT.

A. ADMITTEDLY EMPHASIZING THE POSITIVE, BREZHNEV CITED RECENT IMPROVEMENTS IN ASIAN SITUATION SUCH AS END OF VIETNAM WAR, RESTORATION OF PEACE IN LAOS, CREATION OF CONDITIONS FOR NORMAL RELATIONS AMONG STATES OF INDIAN SUBCONTINENT, AND POSITIVE DEVELOPMENTS IN KOREA BROUGHT ABOUT BY PEACEFUL INITIATIVES OF DPRK. HE GAVE SPECIAL PRAISE TO INDIA AS OUTSTANDING ADVOCATE OF PEACE-LOVING POLICIES WITH CREDENTIALS GOING BACK TO TIME WHEN PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE WAS NOT IN FASHION.

B. TURNING TO A FAVORITE THEME, HE EXPRESSED CONVICTION THAT THE ROAD TO PEACE IN ASIA WAS COLLECTIVE SECURITY. TIME AND EFFORT WOULD BE NEEDED TO ACHIEVE IT , BUT ASIAN PEOPLES WOULD EVENTUALLY COME TO IT. HE DID NOT SPELL OUT PRINCIPLE OF ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY (KOSYGIN HAD ENUMERATED THEM LAST WEEK AT BANQUET FOR IRANIAN PRIME MINISTER), BUT INSTEAD SOUGHT TO GIVE CONCEPT A MORE INDIGENOUS FLAVOR BY SUGGESTING BANDUNG RESOLUTIONS AS STARTING POINT. AS IN PREVIOUS PRONOUNCEMENTS, BREZHNEV SOUGHT TO REMOVE ANTI-CHINESE STING FROM CONCEPT BY CALLING FOR EQUAL PARTICIPATION OF ALL ASIAN STATES "WITHOUT EXCEPTION."

C. BREZHNEV ADOPTED STANDARD TONE OF SORROW AND ANGER CONCERNING CHINA. HE PLACED ENTIRE BLAME FOR FAILURE TO IMPROVE RELATIONS ON CHINESE LEADERSHIP, ACCUSING PEKING OF ANTI-SOVIETISM AND SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES AGAINST THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES. HE REITERATED POLICY LINE SET AT 24TH CPSU CONGRESS - TO COMBAT MAOISM, WHICH IS HOSTILE TO LENINISM, AND TO SEEK NORMALIZATION OF STATE RELATIONS. BY DESCRIBING MAOISM AS HOSTILE ONLY TO LENINISM (INSTEAD OF "MARXISM-LENINISM") AND REFERRING SPECIFICALLY TO 24TH PARTY CONGRESS LINE ON CHINA LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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("NORMALIZATION" RATHER THAN "PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE"), BREZHNEV DID NOTHING TO SURFACE UNDERCURRENTS OF OPINION FAVORING EXCLUSION OF CHINA CATEGORY OF SOCIALIST COUNTRY.

D. ON EUROPE, BREZHNEV SAW BOTH NEGATIVE AND POSITIVE TENDENCIES IN NON-COMMUNIST WORLD, AND WHILE HIS TREATMENT WAS UPBEAT HE DIVERGED TO TAKE A SHARP JAB AT "WELL-KNOWN CIRCLES IN FRG" WHO ALLEGEDLY SEEK TO IMPOSE FORMER COLD-WAR LINE TOWARD GDR. A PASSAGE ON CONTACTS AND DISSEMINATION OF IDEAS WITH OBVIOUS RELEVANCE FOR SCCE OMITTS USUAL POINTS ABOUT NON-INTERFERENCE AND ASSERTS MORE CONFIDENT ATTITUDE . IN EFFECT, BREZHNEV SAID COMMUNIST CAN COMPETE FOR HEARTS AND MINDS OF OTHER THROUGH I
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